



Agriculture in the Classroom

APR 26 1993

The Agriculture Newsletter for Teachers

NEW YEAR'S EDITION 1993

AG AMBASSADOR FAIR INVITES MEDICINE HAT AND AREA SCHOOLS TO TOUR EXHIBITS

Friday, February 26, 1993

In response to recommendations from teachers the Ag Ambassador Fair will be open for school tours. "We hope this will encourage local participation in the event," say organizers who have been disappointed in the participation by Medicine Hat schools the last two years.

Representatives from Camrose community will be visiting the fair this year as they plan to host an Ag Ambassador Fair in their area in '94. "We would like to see strong support from the Medicine Hat schools so we can continue the Fair on a regional basis in the future," says Don Sodero, General Manager of the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede. Each year the Fair has expanded and attracted more entries in a variety of classes. This year we are expecting an increase again!

cont'd on page 4

Marilyn Lanz, Strathmore, motivated the National AITC Conference delegates with her dramatic multi-media presentation. Thank you Marilyn.

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*Alberta's Agriculture Education Excellence Award Winner,
AITC National Conference - Connie Dersch-Gunderson -
displays her award.*

Connie's Address

About two years ago, a bulletin came to our school outlining the Ag. Ambassador Program and asking that each school interested have an Ambassador. I went to my principal and said "that's me."

That summer, I attended the Summer Agricultural Education Institute at Olds College. By the time I left there my head was whirling with ideas that I couldn't wait to take back to the classroom.

cont'd on page 4

NEW YEAR'S WISH

Ag in the Classroom staff join in wishing you Health, Happiness and Prosperity in '93.

Words for '93

**Relax - Laugh - Creative -
Enjoy - Smile - Love -
Spontaneous - Optimistic.**
Pick one or find your own.
Let's be positive!

OUR FOOD - IS IT SAFE?

We are lucky in Canada to have one of the safest, most abundant food supplies in the world. In spite of this, misconceptions persist that "they" are "contaminating" our food with dyes, veterinary drugs, dangerous chemicals, industrial pollutants....

It is **possible** that in **some countries where food safety standards are either not set or not monitored** some potentially harmful agents may remain in the food supply. For example, do you remember the inexpensive vanilla that was popular several years ago as an item to bring back from your trip to Mexico? It was inexpensive because it may not actually have been vanilla but rather an extract of the cheaper tonka bean which contained coumarin - the compound used to poison rats. In Canada, we are accustomed to labelling laws which state that food purchased in Canada must actually be what it says it is, and that all ingredients must be listed on the label. Not only that, but inspectors make certain it's so. In some countries, such laws may not exist or may not be enforced. So if we purchase food outside the country, we cannot necessarily expect it to meet Canada's high standards.

International Standard

Currently, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) is working with developing countries to strengthen their food control and monitoring systems. Laws are being drafted which will at least conform to internationally accepted standards, such as those set by the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The aim is to establish international quality and safety standards for food.

Additives

Canadians need to remember that we have a very limited list of "additives" permitted for use in food, as well as a limited number of pesticides registered for agricultural production. Every one of those chemicals has been subjected to many years of testing involving short- and long-term health, effects on offspring, and any effect on the environment before being approved for use. Pesticides have a "half-life" which means that by the time the food is harvested, there is virtually no residue on the crop. Violations of antibiotic and hormone residue limits are practically

non-existent. Additives used in processing food include such things as vitamins, which we consider desirable. Colouring agents or other food additives must be "food grade" which means that it is free of any impurities.

A Genuine Hazard

There is one very real danger in our Canadian food supply. It is contamination by microorganisms which cause food-borne illness. Much of this contamination occurs after food has been sold to the consumer. The most important way to avoid food-borne illness is to handle food with clean hands and clean utensils; and to keep hot food hot and cold food cold. If we can prevent waste and illness because of poor handling, we will be reducing the real risk from our food supply.

*Prepared by: Linda St. Onge, PHEC.
Regional Foods and
Nutrition Specialist
Home Economics Branch
December 1992.*

AG AMBASSADOR UPDATES

Thanks go out to all of the teachers who sent their Agriculture Ambassador updates in to us. We greatly appreciate all of your efforts to turn students "ON" to agriculture. You are doing a fantastic job of increasing agriculture awareness in your schools. Please keep it up!

What did our "Super Agriculture Ambassadors" do over the past year? They did one or more of the following things ...

- ◆ Entered the Agriculture Ambassador Fair
- ◆ Provided inservices to colleagues on Ag. in the Classroom resources
- ◆ Provided inservice to colleagues on "Explore Nutritious Alberta"
- ◆ Got involved in 4-H beef county sale
- ◆ Registered their class for a CAP presentation
- ◆ Invited 4-H reps. to speak on ag. issues
- ◆ Developed pictorial projects
- ◆ Grew a garden
- ◆ Formed a link with district ag. office
- ◆ Held a poster contest - theme of "life on the farm"
- ◆ Developed a compulsory ag. course

- ◆ Joined Alpha Partners Program
- ◆ Invited a county fieldman to speak to class on soil and conservation
- ◆ Worked with Ag. Service Board to sell cloth lunch bags
- ◆ Organized an ag-expo
- ◆ Had class write ag. poetry
- ◆ Formed an ag. club
- ◆ Organized tours of dairy, turkey, pig, horse operations
- ◆ Organized field trip to an auction market
- ◆ Organized stock dog demonstration
- ◆ Developed a horse unit and organized a field trip to stables
- ◆ Put together a bulletin board display of ag-related resources available in library just outside of library
- ◆ Invited puppeteer to present a puppet show (soil and conservation)
- ◆ Showed videos ("The Inside Story", "Space Age Ag.", "Kids and Colts", "Alberta Advantage")
- ◆ Brought a goat into class, allowed students to interact with it, and had students write a story from the goat's point of view
- ◆ Performed experiments



- ◆ Played games such as "Weather or Not" (Pride in Alberta handbook, Grade 6)
- ◆ Discussed ag. careers
- ◆ Got involved in Adopt-a-Classroom program through Olds College and the ATTC program
- ◆ Wrote a monthly news column about class work in a local newspaper
- ◆ Had students do farm related chores
- ◆ Constructed a greenhouse

Wow! To quote a 1992 Summer Agricultural Education Institute special production, "why not make ag. your bag?"

SUPER AG. AMBASSADOR UPDATE

Chicken man has a foul mouth.

Can a Blue man sing the whites?

HANGIN' IN
Creative Graffiti

CHALLENGE — The Fear of Change

I feel privileged to be able to submit an article for this newsletter. Especially one that addresses the above title.

Agriculture, like education, is in the squiggle stage. A stage in which change is inevitable as we continue into the twenty-first century.

Agriculture provides educators with the vehicle and the support system to become involved in change, while at the same time to feel confident that students are able to meet their learning needs. Teachers who truly understand differentiation are able to use agricultural themes to stimulate student decision making as they design their own learning. The support of materials and human resources is readily available from the agricultural industry.

Consultative services, a component of the Centre for Gifted Education, University of Calgary, is presently organizing a network of teachers in Alberta, British Columbia, and Montana. These teachers have an understanding of differentiation and are working closely with the Centre in developing teaching strategies to help students meet their needs in the regular classroom. The format of this collaboration is usually carried out through projects. The projects involve all age of students from E.C.S. to grade twelve and are selected by individual teachers, staff and/or administration.

Examples of the projects include developing themes, implementing program continuity, learning through writing - the writing process as a learning tool, using different teaching styles, anecdotal reporting and assessment, developing a community of learners and multiculturalism. Many of these projects involve parents as partners in education.

Although the focus of these projects is to make a difference for more able students it should also be noted that it compliments the vision of Alberta Education.

Alberta Department of Agriculture would be an integral part of the educational change process in this province. The key is collaboration among the stakeholder groups. Together we can deal with change and shape the future of both education and agriculture.

THE BEST P.D. EXPERIENCE Summer Agricultural Education Experience

The 1993 Summer Agricultural Education Institute will provide participants with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn about the agriculture industry in a first-hand and hands-on way.

The 1993 Institute will be held at Olds College in Olds, July 12 to 23.

Institute highlights:

- spend a day on the farm and experience the bed and breakfast hospitality of a host farm family
- on tour, visit
 - Alberta breeders - embryo transfer specialists
 - Hutterite colony
 - Custom Woolen Mills
 - A modern grain elevator
 - An exotic animal farm
 - Pearsons Berry Farm
 - Traditional production operations
- discuss with Alex Graham, V.P. of Alberta Pool, the current world food situation and Alberta's role in global agriculture
- learn about a dynamic network of support and innovative educational programs
- create your own classroom activities for publication and sharing with other Alberta educators
- participate in a variety of social events fostering friendships and building of professional contacts
- meet ag. industry representatives at the ag. education expo and gala opening banquet
- receive a certificate of participation for the Institute and full University of Lethbridge Master level credit

Contact Ag. in the Classroom at 427-2402.

What did one Institute participant think of her Institute experience at Lakeland College in 1992?

This has been the very best PD experience I have had in all my years of teaching. The presenters have been outstanding and the resources they have provided seem unlimited. Christina has done a wonderful job seeking informative field trip spots. This has taken a considerable amount of time and energy and she is to be commended for her efforts. Rick and Betty, thank you for providing such an opportunity for me to attend this practical hands-on experience; especially for placing me with such a wonderful host family.

Teachers interested in being part of our network please contact the writer.

Submitted by:
Don Green
Coordinator of Consultative Services
Centre for Gifted Education
University of Calgary
T2N 1N4 Phone: 220-7539

Agriculture in The Classroom Newsletter

PURPOSE: To provide Alberta educators with a networking tool containing current information on the agriculture industry and related resources that are available for classroom use.

EDITOR: Betty Gabert

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PRODUCTION: June Gingras

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2nd Floor, 7000 - 113 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5T6
PHONE: 403-427-2402
FAX: 403-438-3362

FAIR INVITATION CONT'D

Some of the special attractions planned for teachers and students are:

- Exhibition of award winning fair entries.
- Educational activity displays - hosted by industry and government to provide students with hands-on experiences.
- Grandstand style show featuring stock dog demonstration, an auction, sheep shearing and other participatory events for students.

Schools are invited to attend for a half or full day and are asked to pre-register using the enclosed form or by calling Ag in the Classroom at 427-2402.

As a special promotion to encourage student involvement C.H.A.T. Radio is offering a New Country Dance for the participating school that wins the draw for the big event. Entries for the draw are awarded to all projects entered in the fair and to all students, teachers and parents who participate in the Friday tours. Specific contest rules will be sent to all Medicine Hat and area schools in January.

Come One, Come All. We are looking forward to having you visit the fair. Saturday is open to the public - bring a friend.

by Betty Gabert

CONNIE CONT'D

Last fall was the beginning of probably the most meaningful time in my teaching career because I was combining two very significant factors in my life, teaching and agriculture. I was absolutely in my element with the stock dog demonstration, auction market tour, turkey farm tour and irrigation farm tour.

I ask each of you to look "in" and study the texture of your character. What brought you to this conference? How did you get initially involved in agriculture in the classroom? When your school needed an Agriculture Ambassador, what made you say "that's me?"

I would like to suggest to each of you that we here today share at least one or more of a few common characteristics.

I am confident that you will find within, a kind of spiritual possession, one that manifests itself in a love for things rural.

You are likely the type of person who reacts sympathetically to your environment. One with a love for the land.

You probably feel best in your old blue jeans.

You perhaps take a genuine delight in growing things.

You feel an inner kindness toward horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, turkeys or perhaps chickens.

You have an appreciation of the business methods and scientific technology applied to farming operations.

You are enthusiastic about rural life and the objects through which it expresses itself.

It is your conveyance of this spirit of enthusiasm that makes your agriculture lessons and agricultural related activities meaningful to your students. Your enthusiasm coupled with knowledge and agricultural related experiences will beckon this spirit from the students.

To provide meaningful first hand experiences look to your second powerful resource, the agricultural sector of your community and surrounding communities.

There are people out there from every facet of agriculture that are more than eager to share their experiences in agriculture with the generation of the future.

No book, no lecture can convey the realities of agriculture as well as a personal encounter.

The third resource I want to make reference to is the professional knowledge, facts and principles. Professionals have developed unlimited resources for use in the classroom to assist you in providing your child with concepts, facts and figures. These resources are curriculum compatible, hands-on, readily available and in some cases like CAPS, in person.

This conference is where all your resources come together.

#1 You #2 Representatives of the industry #3 Program materials.

After you leave this conference the network will be the key to your resources. The network is for you, it is you and it is a network I am extremely proud to be a part of.

by Connie Dersch-Gunderson

NATIONAL SOIL CONSERVATION WEEK POSTER CONTEST RETURNS

The annual National Soil Conservation Week Poster Contest is now underway. This contest is open to Alberta students in grades four to six. The winning entry and three runner-up entries will receive cash prizes and an autographed copy of a book written by Grant MacEwan.

The top twelve posters from last year's contest are now featured in a 1993 calendar.

This contest is an excellent review of concepts covered in "Conserving Soil for the Next Generation" booklets. "Conserving Soil for the Next Generation" is a 20 page booklet covering the importance of soil in food production, soil erosion and soil conservation practices. Activities in the booklet cover language arts, social studies and science concepts. The accompanying teacher guide provides

curriculum connections and additional lessons.

If you have any questions about the contest or to order your free copies of "Conserving Soil for the Next Generation", contact Ag in the Classroom.

Barb Shackel
*Conservation Awareness Specialist
Conservation & Development Branch
Alberta Agriculture*

New Resources

You can borrow these excellent kits from the AITC Program:

1. Computer Program

- ❖ a special purchase by the Ag Ambassador program and edited for use in Canadian schools. This software program for Junior High includes
 - Social Studies, Science, Home Economics and Math.

It's fun and easy, give it a try!

2. Slide and Script Program

(Ag Ambassador Partner Program)

- ❖ generously donated by the Alberta Women's Institute, this is a showcase of rural Alberta and the agriculture community. Many of our institute teachers recommend this one.

4. Conservation Puppets

- ❖ Looking for a fun way to teach children about conservation of our land and water resources? Try the Soil and Water Conservation Society Puppet Kit.

An all-star cast of Wiggles Worm, Owl, Gopher, and Duck tell children about conserving our land and water resources. The four hand puppets come in a case which also contains three scripts, the words to two specially written songs, and discussion questions.

To borrow the kit, contact Tom Jensen or Marsha Guenette at 422-4385.



- ❖ Looking for more fun ways to teach children about conservation of our land and water resources? Try the Soil and Water Conservation Society Interpretive Posters.

This series of interpretive posters consists of five posters, each on a specific topic: Conservation in Forestry; Water Erosion on Agricultural Land; Wind Erosion on Agricultural Land; Land Reclamation - Pipelines; Land Reclamation - Stripmines.

These black and white posters are excellent for class discussions and colouring. Important features are marked on each drawing and explained on the back of the poster.

Posters are free of charge and are available from Friends of Environment Education Society of Alberta at 421-1497.



3. Explore Nutritious Alberta Program

- ❖ this is a curriculum compatible program for elementary students - Grades 1 to 6 and is an excellent complement to the Health curriculum. Contact your District Agriculture office or Alberta Agriculture Home Economics Branch at 427-2412.

FOR PURCHASE

5. "What now, Kerbie?" unit

A new resource for teachers (K - 5)

- ❖ This unit will encourage students to gain an awareness of the importance of agriculture and the complex nature of this vital industry.

This unit includes:

- ★ a teacher's manual (K - 5)
- ★ a Kerbie toy
- ★ 4 "What now, Kerbie?" storybooks
- ★ Sample real life Kerbies (corn seeds)

The unit's price is \$29.95 + \$5.00 S & H + 7% G.S.T.

Contact: Lavonne Stephen
AITC Associates Inc.
R.R. #1, St. Mary's, Ontario
N4X 1C4. Telephone (519) 229-6765.

Carol Beswick is participating in an Australian exchange. She would love to receive some mail and promises to answer all letters. Let's keep her busy.

45 Clive Street
Tenterfield, New South Wales
Australia 2372

----- Special Book Sale -----

The delegates of the AITC National Conference were fortunate to hear Dr. John Paterson as a closing keynote speaker. His session was entertaining and informative!

Dr. Paterson has made the following special offer to AITC contacts who wish to purchase his books.

1. Janzen, Henry; Paterson, John; Blashko, Carl (1989). That's Living,
Three Pears Publishing, Edmonton, Alberta.
2. Janzen, Henry; Paterson, John; Blashko, Carl (1991). That's Living Too,
Three Pears Publishing, Edmonton, Alberta.
3. Paterson, John; Blashko, Carl; Janzen, Henry (1991). When You Stand Alone,
Three Pears Publishing, Edmonton, Alberta.

The price of each of these books in bookstores is \$18.95, exclusive of GST. For participation in workshops by authors, people are invited to purchase these books at discount prices as follows:

One Book	\$15.00
Two Books	\$25.00
Three Books	\$30.00

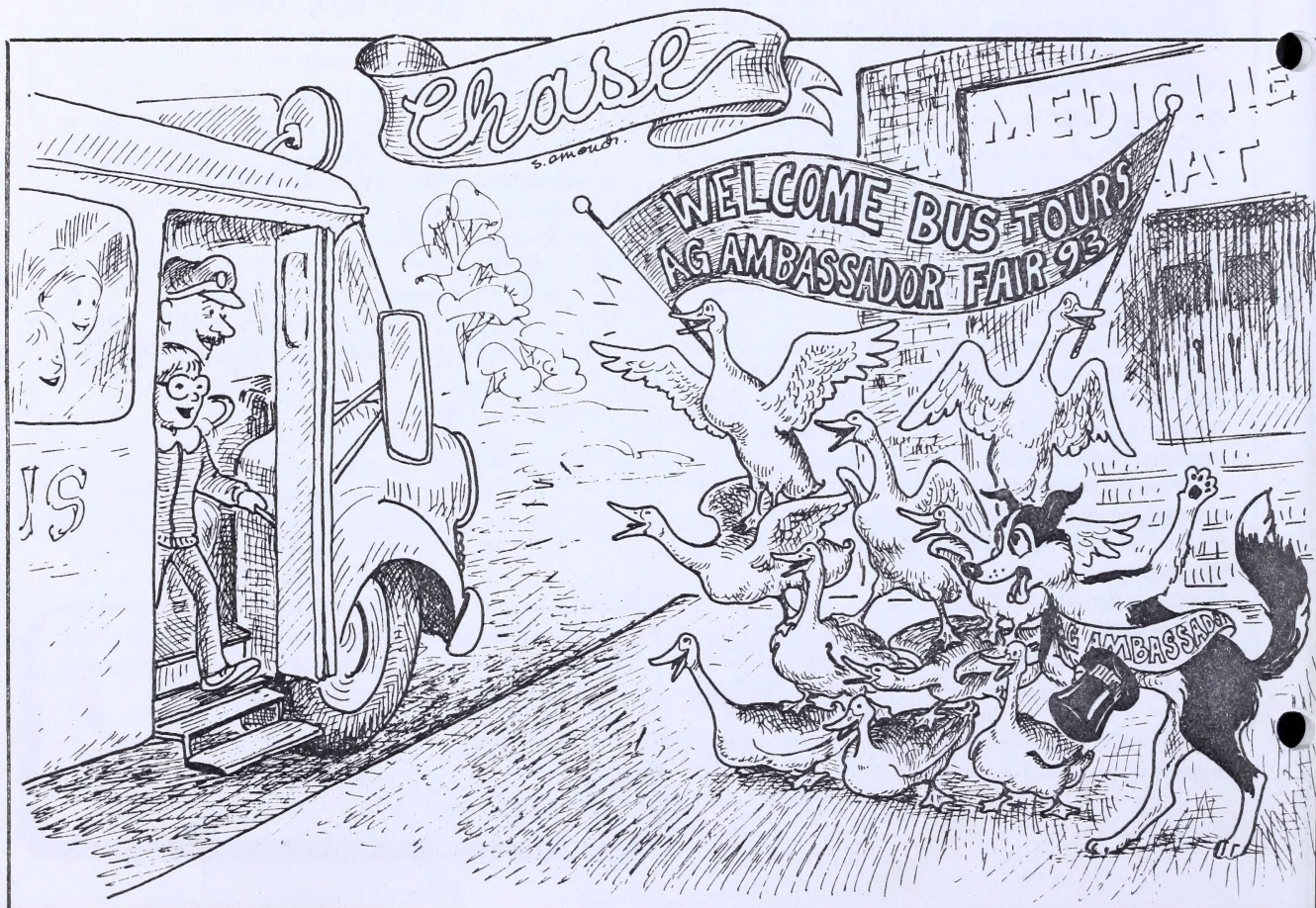
Make cheques payable to

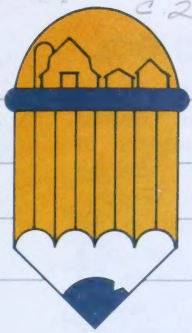
Three Pears Publishing
922 Burley Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6R 1X3
Telephone: (403) 435-2406

Editors Note

These books are a must
in our libraries, enjoy!

Betty Gabert





Agriculture in the Classroom

ONE ROOM SCHOOL DOMINATES AG AMBASSADOR FAIR

Buffalo School has only 14 students, but now it also boasts winning three of the provincial Agricultural Ambassador School Fair high points awards.

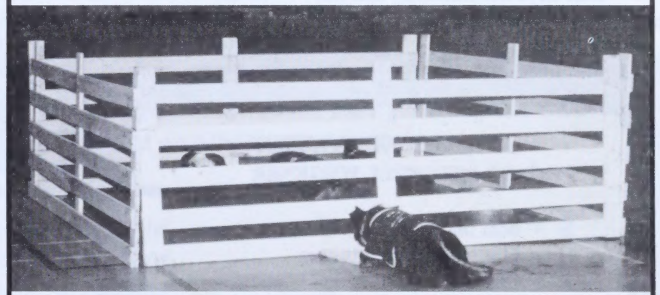
The Buffalo community is located in eastern Alberta approximately 60 miles northeast of Brooks.

The high point awards are given to students who receive the most points in each of four divisions. Cody Christman and Clay Ross were the winners in division one (grades one to three). Christy Hoff took top honors in division two (grades four through six) and the team of Kendra Buck and Lisa Monkman earned top spot in division three (grades seven through nine).

All five of the students and their families will be treated to a weekend in Calgary courtesy of the Alberta Wheat Pool. The Pool is a major sponsor of the Agricultural Ambassador Program. The Calgary trip includes hotel accommodation and trips to points of interest including the Pool's Grain Academy.

"I guess the question for a lot of people, especially considering this third fair had the highest number of entries - over 900, was how did such a small school accomplish this," says Betty Gabert, Alberta Agriculture agricultural awareness specialist. "A lot of the credit goes to Dean Pike, the school's principal and teacher."

cont'd on Page 2



Fun at the Ag Ambassador Fair

Outstanding Agriculture Ambassador Wins Award

Elementary school teacher Daryl Chichak was honored for his outstanding contribution to the Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) program at the Agriculture Ambassador Fair held in Medicine Hat, February 26th and 27th.

Since he attended the Summer Agricultural Education Institute in

Lethbridge in 1990, Daryl has become one of our most active Ag. Ambassadors. He has led teacher workshops supporting ag. themes, acted as an ag. resource specialist, worked all three Ag. Ambassador Fairs as a volunteer at his own expense, and volunteered for the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference.

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ONE ROOM SCHOOL CONT'D

Pike, a graduate of the Summer Agricultural Institute, saw the fair as an opportunity for his students to work on their research and presentation skills inside and outside the classroom adds Gabert. "His students used their past experience with science fairs in researching, writing and presenting their projects. Even though he wasn't teaching agriculture as a unit in his classroom, he had his students work on projects and enter them in the fair."

And the Buffalo School students did work. Over the course of three months they spent class time, recess, lunch hours and time after school on their projects. In class, they did writing and word processing. Outside of class they did all the other project work.

"Dean also says he saw the fair as an opportunity for his students to learn about the concept of agricultural diversity as their family farms are almost exclusively grain and cattle operations," says Gabert.

Pike says his students "had fun and learned a great deal about agricul-

ture even though they come from rural backgrounds". The results were outstanding projects. For example, judges awarded the grade three entry of Christman and Ross 199 points out of a total of 200. Rations and feeding practices for a variety of livestock was their project focus. It was presented in a three dimensional format including samples and written materials.

Pike also raised \$1,200 so the students could attend the fair in Medicine Hat. They also toured some agricultural points of interest in the Medicine Hat area. To recognize the community contribution to the fair, a mini-fair was held in a local community hall.

The first three Agricultural Ambassador School Fairs were held in Medicine Hat. Camrose will host the fair in 1994.

The fairs were designed to support the Agricultural Ambassador program that has the goal of naming a teacher as ambassador in every Alberta school.

KITCHENER SCHOOL

Agriculture crossed borders in Kitchener School! Empress Village is situated along the borders of Saskatchewan and Alberta, although Kitchener School itself is in Alberta.

As a classroom activity, the students of grades 1 to 6 entered a "Soil Smart Coloring Contest for Young Conservationists". This activity emphasized different farming practices.

Two of our students' entries won first place position. First Place for 6 year olds and under went to Luke Booker; and First place for 9-11 year olds went to Holly Steinley.

Mrs. Rachel Booker, Teacher



AgriNews

SOIL CONSERVATION

BY MITCHELL WEGENER

- S - Soil that is our friend
- O - Our soil that needs care
- I - I love the soil
- L - Love the soil and it will love you

- C - Compost that is plant food made from decomposed organic matter
- O - Organic matter that is things that are or were once living
- N - Nature's precious gift
- S - Subsoil that is one layer under top soil
- E - Erosion that will wreck your soil
- R - Rill that is made in a field by running water
- V - Vegetables that grow in soil
- A - All of us should keep our soil healthy
- T - Tillage that is mixing the soil
- I - Intelligent farmers that save their soil
- O - Only farmers that have black soil have good harvest's
- N - Nature that lives on soil

OLD MCDONALD

BY LINDSAY & ASHLEY

Old McDonald had some soil E-I-E-I-O
 But it kept blowing right away E-I-E-I-O
 We suggested strip farming E-I-E-I-O
 With a strip farm here and a strip farm there
 here a strip there a strip everywhere a strip farm.
 Old McDonald had some soil E-I-E-I-O
 Thank you for your very kind help E-I-E-I-O
 Then his soil did not blow E-I-E-I-O
 Thank GOD the farmer saved his soil E-I-E-I-O
 If your soil is blowing E-I-E-I-O
 You could use strip farming E-I-E-I-O
 Or you could use shelterbelt.

**Submitted by: Marilyn Lantz
 Brentwood School
 Strathmore, Alberta**

-- INFORMATION OVERLOAD --

The Educator's Challenge

Learning how to evaluate information is essential for the students of today to become the responsible global citizens of tomorrow. But to help their students achieve this goal, educators today face a challenge that would have bewildered their one-room-schoolhouse predecessors. The age of information, characterized by sophisticated telecommunications and computer technology, has made impossible the existence of the fabled Renaissance Man. Faced with the volumes of information available via telecommunications and computer networks, an increasing number of educators recognize that learning how to gain access to information is equally as important as learning facts. Equally important, however, is the fact that as they teach their students how to gain access to information, educators must

also emphasize the importance of thoroughly researching that information.

Freedoms inherently imply responsibilities. As Canadians enjoy the right to freedom of speech, we also bear the responsibility to thoroughly review the information revealed by our research before we make a decision about an issue. Students must learn that information is subjective; interpretations of the same issue can vary significantly depending on the viewpoint of the individuals or organizations interpreting the issue. As a result, seemingly conflicting information can be provided by the media, government, industry and lobby groups. For instance, livestock organizations and animal rights groups disagree about the issue of cattle and the environment; however, both have the unalienable right to print and distrib-

ute their views. Therefore, it is the responsibility of Canadians to listen to both sides of the story and to make a judgement based on sound reasoning.

It is the responsibility of today's educators to help their students develop the ability to research and evaluate available information to be able to make informed decisions. For that reason, learning how to research and debate issues like game farming or public lands is more valuable than simply studying the available information on such issues; a successful debater is aware of the information presented by all sides of an argument and can evaluate that information.

Watch for a series of articles in which Information Overload will take an indepth look at this significant challenge faced by educators.

by Anne Marie Resta

AG IN THE CLASSROOM — A Partnership With Industry!

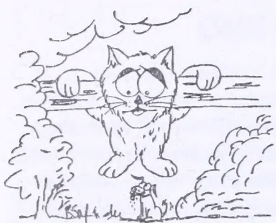
Over the years Ag in the Classroom has enjoyed support and endorsement from the Ag industry and educators. We have just received the good news that we have two new partners:

-
- The Alberta Barley Commission will be sponsoring the entertainment portion of the Summer Ag Institute opening banquet and also the stage presentation of Ag Ambassador Fair. These events are truly highlights in our program and we welcome Barley Commission's support.
-

-
- The Camrose Regional Exhibition will be a major sponsor of the 1994 Ag Ambassador Fair - providing facilities and staff for the two day event to be held in March. We are looking forward to working with the Camrose team on this event. Look for details and prize list in the Fall newsletter.
-

A Special Note of Thanks to Dan Sodero and the Medicine Hat Stampede Association for hosting the first three Ag Ambassador Fairs.

Each year we have tried new things with the full support and cooperation of Dan's team. Thank you for helping us to grow and improve!



BAD NEWS!

*They taste worse than Buckleys,
but they are just as good for you.*

GOOD NEWS

*You don't have to eat them to
get the benefit.*

Just use your

**AG IN THE CLASSROOM
RESOURCES**

HANGIN' IN
Creative Graffiti

EDITOR'S NOTE — Teachers Want!

Recently I have had the privilege to attend several meetings with educators. In listening to their concerns regarding the resources that they would find most useful. The following suggestions were made:

1. They must be Curriculum Compatible and not add to the teacher's workload.
2. They must be activity based, involving the students in learning levels from knowledge right up to evaluation (Blooms taxonomy).
3. They must be user friendly.

I am pleased to report that the Ag in the Classroom resources have been designed with all of these needs in mind. Practicing teachers and educational developers have worked hard to bring innovative ideas that are practical in almost all school settings to you. We respect your busy schedule and are confident you will find our resources efficient and exciting to use. I hope you will try them soon!

Enjoy - Betty Gabert



And the really good news!

Ag in the Classroom resources and a complete list of all industry resources and programs is available **FREE** through our Ag Ambassador Program at Ag in the Classroom.

WORDS ON OPTIMISM

Quote from an Institute grad:

It's interesting how every farm or business we have visited including my host family, are in a state of growth, development, change, research, upgrading, experimenting with new methods or machinery (technology) or some other program that all indicate that they are interested in what they are doing. They want to be able to do better and they all seem to look to the future with realistic optimism. For me this is exciting. It tells me we are healthy because of the optimism held by so many. I have always been an optimist and to see so many other optimistic people in this province is refreshing. And this program is so optimistic along with the people that drive it. Life is great!

- Ralph Kunkel
Raymond, Alberta

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FAX: 403-438-3362

OUTSTANDING AMBASSADOR CONT'D

Even though Daryl is an urban teacher and has an urban background, he has come to appreciate the importance of the ag. industry and the impact this industry has on our daily lives. He attributes his first lessons in agricultural awareness education to his experience at the Summer Agricultural Education Institute.

Our congratulations to Daryl Chichak, winner of the Daryl Chickak Award, "honoring the outstanding contributions of Alberta educators to agriculture awareness initiatives." Merit award winners will be announced at the Summer Agricultural Education Institute's opening banquet.

The objectives of the Daryl Chichak Award are:

- ★ to recognize Ag. Ambassadors who actively support ag. themes in their classrooms
- ★ to offer an incentive to Ag. Ambassadors to become active or increase their activity
- ★ to symbolize the importance of Ag. Ambassadors to the AITC program

by Kim Wiltzen

Award Nominees Required

As a part of the Daryl Chichak Outstanding Contribution Award, the Ag Ambassador program is planning to recognize some Merit Award winners at the opening banquet of the Summer Agricultural Institute July 14 at Olds College.

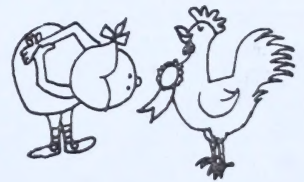
While we are aware of some teachers tremendous accomplishments in Agricultural Awareness leadership, it is possible that there are some quiet, hard working Ambassadors who deserve recognition as well. If you are one of those wonderful people or know of one, please send along a note to Ag in the

Classroom so we can consider your nomination for this year's recognition. This will be an informal process.

Please fill out the nomination form below summarizing your candidates efforts in the classroom, with their staff, in the community, or other educational settings. If we require more information to assist us with our selection we will contact you.

Good luck to your candidates.

**Selected winners will be contacted
by June 15, 1993.**



Send nomination forms to:
Ag in the Classroom Program
Alberta Agriculture, Food
and Rural Development
2nd Floor, 7000 - 113 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5T6

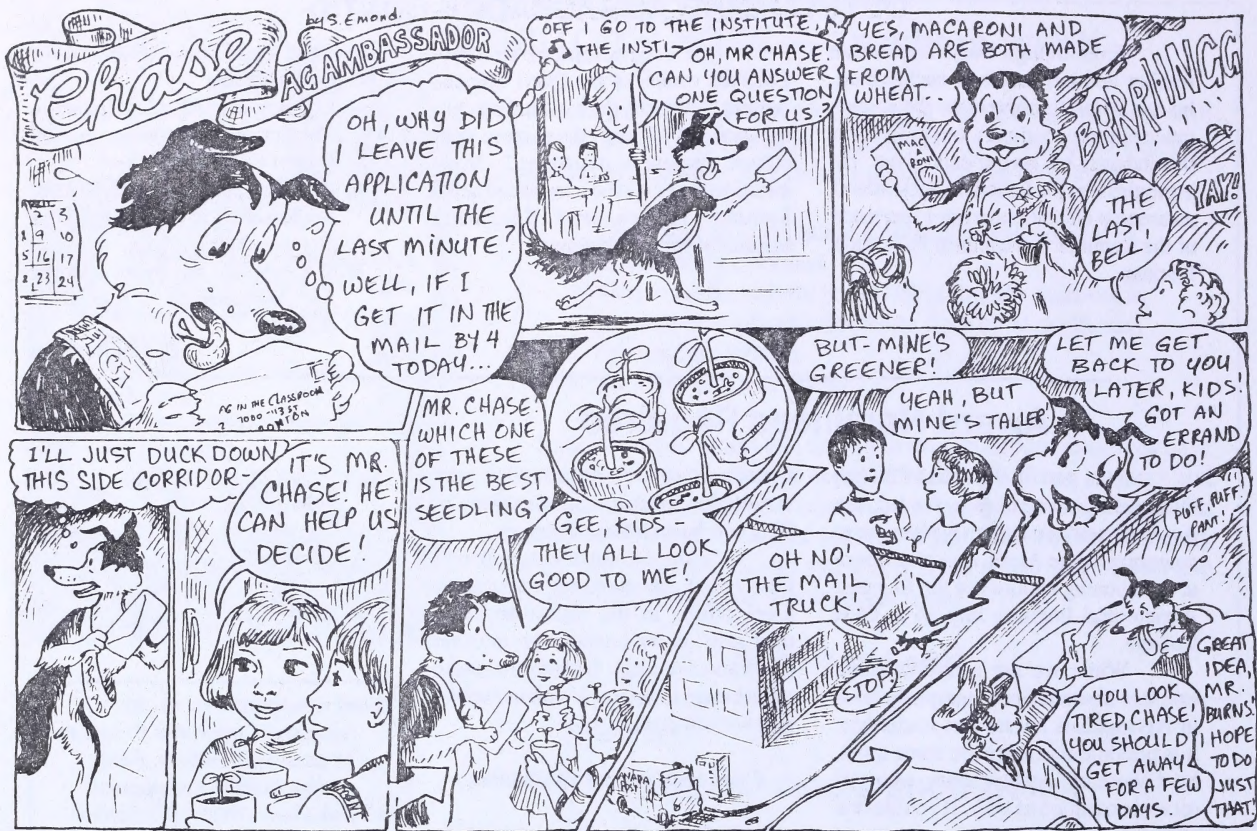
Merit Award Nominee

Name: _____
School Name: _____
Address: _____
Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Ag Awareness Activity

Merit Award Nominator

Name: _____
School Name: _____
Address: _____
Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____



Adopt-a-Classroom

Quote from Lorretta Stabler "... Focus on Olds. We had the best trip - so interesting and the people who gave us the tours were so knowledgeable.

The last question Grade 5's had was, "Can we start here in September?" Guess they are ready to learn everywhere."

Millarville Community School

It was a cold day in March when the Grade Five's went to Olds College. It was a two hour bus ride of singing songs. When the Grade Five class came to Olds College, Mac Corrie met them at the door. Mac was going to be their tour guide. Soon they met Susan Jensen and Joan, they were going to be their other tour guides. Grade Five's thought it was a big success.

by Lynnsy Rasmussen

Our class went to Olds College. We went to the Header House where you prepare pots for plants. We also went to the Herbarium, it was for pressed plants. The cabinets had a lot written on them because they were in Latin for the files and plants. We walked over to the dairy, it was where they would milk the cows. We also looked at the goats, sheep and swine. We got to hold the piglets, they were one day old. After we were done looking at all the places we met at the class and got some prices. Then we had to go home ALREADY! So we said good-bye and we were off home.

by Paul Farrugia

Grade Five Class Tours Olds College

